

Wake County Cotton Farmers Take Right Action.

The Wake County cotton farmers have taken the right steps to get better prices for cotton. Saturday, 16th, a committee was appointed to solicit the co-operation of bankers and merchants, and on Saturday, 23rd, Chairman R. H. Jones reported their action, which we earnestly commend to all other cotton growing sections:

"Your committee waited upon the the presidents of the various banks of this city and found them thoroughly in accord with the movement which we have inaugurated, agreeing unhesitatingly to lend at least three-fourths of the prevailing market price on cotton stored in any Raleigh warehouse. The President of one bank informed the committee that he would on that day gladly lend \$100,000 on such collateral. Another bank president stated that he would gladly lend sufficient funds to carry the entire cotton crop of this county.

"Your committee also found the merchants who have made advances on this crop very willing to aid the movement, readily assenting to extend the time for payment to those holding cotton in storage, and thereby showing their unfaltering confidence in further advances for our great staple crop.

"At present prices farmers may obtain advances of seven and one-half cents per pound on stored cotton, which is more than cotton was selling for when the Southern Cotton Association began this movement. By this means a farmer storing his own cotton can easily buy that of his tenants who are compelled to sell, thereby keeping the crop from too rapid marketing and hastening the inevitable advance in prices."

Cotton is going up—no doubt about it—and farmers everywhere should make arrangements to store and hold.

Last Week's South Carolina Crop Bulletin.

There was a slight deterioration in the condition of cotton due, mainly, to premature opening, caused by rust and drought. On sandy lands the crop is nearly all open and most of it picked, while over the State generally is opening fast. Growth and fruitage have stopped, but this is immaterial, as what fruitage would be taken on after this time would not mature. Caterpillars have appeared in Berkeley County on cotton, which is the only report of damage by insects this week.

Late corn is in need of rain. There is a slight deterioration of minor crops, due to want of moisture, over the western parts and a slight improvement in the eastern portions. Fall truck has improved, and recently planted seeds are germinating well. Rice harvest made good progress. Much hay and other forage was saved in prime condition.

Here's a Renter Who is Happy Himself and Whose Landlord is Happy.

To Ellis and Rustic, Greetings: I have read your remarks in The Progressive Farmer and Cotton Plant. But say, now: Here's Will Brooksher, not a fictitious name, but a man in the flesh, a mile from here. He is nothing but a renter. The merchants never credit him for a penny's worth and the landlord does not stand for his summer rations. Not even the horse dealers ever take a mortgage on him. They wouldn't think of it. But he's high-headed and independent.

* * *

In the first place, he has discovered that valuable secret that a dollar

is worth a dollar and ten cents semi-annually. He planks down the money for everything he buys, and by this method he lives at one-third less than ordinary renters. He has some extra money made working rented land. He keeps it close to hand, and between busy times he mixes this money with some brains and makes quick shifty turns which pay.

He is a splendid farmer and dictates to the landlord. "I'll take your farm," says he, "and work it carefully. I'll keep it cleared up and improved as best I can, and give you your part, but you must give me fire wood, a pasture, and garden."

He is dictatorial, this renter. He has his way or moves. But he seldom moves, for with all this, the landlord gets more rents and his farm increases in productiveness every year.

Any renter, by exercising judgment, and by thrift and industry, can do as much. If they find after a few years' trial that they are still in the class of Ellis's hero, they had better give up farming and study law or medicine.

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Two years ago this fellow Brooksher marketed twenty bales of cotton at sixteen cents. The land-owners, many of them, held for twenty cents, and they got it—in the neck. He sells the highest quality of hay, the fattest pigs and calves, and the best of everything. He always realizes good prices because he has to sell at no certain time. Sharpfoot isn't after him and there is no sword of Damocles suspended over his head, as per record on page so and so at the court house. He has an interesting family of children, who work in season and attend a good long term each year at the high school. His family is friendly with and on terms of the strictest quality with the land owner.

This man represents a good class of people. No unsalable hills; money in compact form; good stock, provision and cash, ready to pull up and leave on short notice; a good home for him anywhere; master of the most fascinating profession on God's foot-stool; independent, happy and content; drawing his sustenance from the earth, living off the fat of the land, breathing God's pure air and living in his sunshine—well, I wish I were a renter.

W. D. TROUTMAN.

Iredell Co., N. C.

Cutting Mixed Peas and Corn.

Messrs. Editors: About the first of July I sowed one and one-half bushels of peas, together with two and a half gallons of corn, with one sack of good guano to the acre. Now the peas and corn are more than head high; cannot walk through them; beats anything I ever saw. How can I save them? Corn is now silking and tasseling. Can I stack as I would pea-vines alone?

T. J. W.

Knox Co., Tenn.

A combination of corn and pea vines, well grown, form a tough proposition at housing time unless one has a silo to put them in. Notwithstanding the "proposition," a great many more of them should be grown than are now grown, and you are to be congratulated upon having such a fine crop of them. You would probably find difficulty in cutting them with a mower on account of the rank growth and tangled condition. In that event you will have to cut them with a grass blade, allow them to wilt a couple of days, then put in tall cocks, and allow them to cure there sufficiently to prevent the corn from molding when put in the barn or stack. I should not cut them until the corn is past the roasting ear

state and the peas begin to show a few ripe pods, unless threatened with frost.

T. B. PARKER.

Black Rust of Cotton.

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture has since September 1 received numerous samples of diseased cotton bolls, showing blackened surface and in many cases having the immature lint exposed and rotten.

These diseased bolls show the presence of the spores or reproductive parts of a parasitic fungus—*Colletotrichum gossypium*. The fungus seems to be spreading in North Carolina and already does very serious damage. The estimated damage now caused is about one-half the normal yield on the infected areas.

The spores or so-called seeds of the fungus live over winter in the diseased bolls and stalks of the preceding crop usually left in the field. The spores undoubtedly live upon the seed stored in barns and cotton gins. When this seed is planted or when uninfected seed is planted upon infected soil the fungus starts growth along with the seed and grows up

through the young plants, eventually coming to the surface of the stalks and forming black patches on stalk and boll. Great damage is done to the growing crop by the threads of this fungus choking the sap vessels of the leaf-stalks, thereby causing the leaves to fall off. When young bolls are seriously infected they stop growth, open and expose the immature lint which soon rots.

The only practical remedy for this disease is to rotate crops so that cotton will not come upon the same land oftener than once in three years. Seed cotton should never be taken from the piles at gin houses. The seed should always be carefully selected from healthy and prolific plants in the field. Such selection, together with a proper rotation, will prevent the loss now caused by the disease and will at the same time improve the strain and increase the yield of the crop.

The use of fungicidal sprays upon cotton is not recommended.

GERALD MCCARTHY,

Biologist N. C. Dept. Agriculture.

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WINCHESTER "NUBLACK"



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* * *

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Use Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company Fertilizers under your Wheat and Oats and other fall crops.

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— VIA —

SEABOARD

ACCOUNT OF

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR

OCTOBER 16th-21th, 1905.

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The rates from the principal points will be as follows:

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